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PATENT  
5589-02326/P688-04/1C

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:  
Levy et al.

Serial No. 10/670,183

Filed: September 24, 2003

For: METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR  
DETERMINING A CRITICAL  
DIMENSION AND A THIN FILM  
CHARACTERISTIC OF A SPECIMEN

Group Art Unit: 2857

Examiner: Unknown

Atty. Dkt. No. 5589-02326

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile or deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on the date indicated below:

1-16-04

Date

*Pamela Gerik*

Pamela Gerik

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Applicant requests consideration of ☒ the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 (10 pages) and/or ☐ the additional information identified below in paragraph 3. Pursuant to changes made to 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(i), copies of the references are not included.

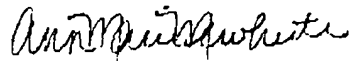
1. This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

- a. ☐ within 3 months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under § 1.53(d);
- ☐ within 3 months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an International application;
- ☒ before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits; or
- ☐ before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under § 1.114.
- b. ☐ after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance, and thus: ☐ the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, or ☐ a fee of \$180.00 is enclosed.

- c. ☐ after the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus: the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided and a fee of \$180.00 is enclosed.
2. It is hereby certified:
- ☐ that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement, or
- ☐ that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in § 1.56 (c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.
3. ☐ Consideration of the following additional information (including any co-pending or abandoned U.S. applications, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested:
4. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached Form PTO-1449:
- ☐ reference is made to an English language translation submitted herewith, and/or
- ☐ reference is made to a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) submitted herewith, and/or
- ☐ reference is made to an English language translation of a foreign patent office search report submitted herewith, and/or
- ☐ reference is made to the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at page(s) \_\_\_\_\_, and/or
- ☐ reference is made to the concise explanation set forth below:
5. ☐ Applicant also offers the following comments for the Examiner's consideration:
6. ☐ Also enclosed is a copy of a foreign search report citing these references.
7. ☐ The listed documents were brought to the attention of the Applicant(s) after payment of the issue fee in the captioned case. The documents were cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. Applicant(s) request this Information Disclosure Statement and attached Form PTO-1449 be placed in the file of the captioned application.
8. ☐ Applicant(s) requests that the Information Disclosure Statement and attached Form PTO-1449 and references, which are being filed before the grant of the patent and pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(i), be placed in the file of the captioned application.

If any required fees are missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge said fees to Conley Rose, P.C. Deposit Account No. 03-2769/5589-02326.

Respectfully submitted,



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Agent for Applicant(s)

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Date: 1-16-04

<b>Form PTO-1449</b> (modified) List of Patents and Publications For Applicant's Information Disclosure Statement (Use several sheets if necessary)			ATTY. DKT. NO. 5589-02326  APPLICANT: Levy et al.  FILING DATE: September 24, 2003		SERIAL NO. 10/670,183  GROUP: 2857		
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
EXAM. INITIALS	REF. DES.	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	A1	3,946,484	3/1976	Aronstein et al.			
	A2	4,232,063	11/1980	Rosler et al.			
	A3	4,247,203	1/1981	Levy et al.			
	A4	4,347,001	8/1982	Levy et al.			
	A5	4,378,159	3/1983	Galbraith			
	A6	4,448,532	5/1984	Joseph et al.			
	A7	4,532,650	7/1985	Wihl et al.			
	A8	4,555,798	11/1985	Broadbent, Jr. et al.			
	A9	4,556,317	12/1985	Sandland et al.			
	A10	4,559,450	12/1985	Robinson et al.			
	A11	4,571,685	2/1986	Kamoshida			
	A12	4,578,589	3/1986	Aitken			
	A13	4,579,455	4/1986	Levy et al.			
	A14	4,579,463	4/1986	Rosencwaig et al.			
	A15	4,587,432	5/1986	Aitken			
	A16	4,599,558	7/1986	Castellano, Jr. et al.			
	A17	4,601,576	7/1986	Galbraith			
	A18	4,618,938	10/1986	Sandland et al.			
	A19	4,619,529	10/1986	Iuchi et al.			
	A20	4,633,504	12/1986	Wihl			
	A21	4,641,967	2/1987	Peccn			
	A22	4,644,172	2/1987	Sandland et al.			
	A23	4,645,929	2/1987	Criegern et al.			
	A24	4,710,030	12/1987	Tauc et al.			
	A25	4,733,091	3/1988	Robinson et al.			
	A26	4,743,767	5/1988	Plumb et al.			
	A27	4,750,822	6/1988	Rosencwaig et al.			

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EXAM. INITIALS	REF. DIS.	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	A28	4,766,324	8/1988	Saadat et al.			
	A29	4,805,123	2/1989	Specht et al.			
	A30	4,812,756	3/1989	Curtis et al.			
	A31	4,818,110	4/1989	Davidson			
	A32	4,842,683	6/1989	Cheng et al.			
	A33	4,845,558	7/1989	Tsai et al.			
	A34	4,854,710	8/1989	Opsal et al.			
	A35	4,877,326	10/1989	Chadwick et al.			
	A36	4,898,471	2/1990	Stonestrom et al.			
	A37	4,905,170	2/1990	Forouhi et al.			
	A38	4,912,326	3/1990	Naito			
	A39	4,926,489	5/1990	Danielson et al.			
	A40	4,999,014	3/1991	Gold et al.			
	A41	4,999,578	3/1991	Ohashi et al.			
	A42	5,023,424	6/1991	Vaught			
	A43	5,042,951	8/1991	Gold et al.			
	A44	5,043,589	8/1991	Smedt et al.			
	A45	5,047,648	9/1991	Fishkin et al.			
	A46	5,076,692	12/1991	Neukermans et al.			
	A47	5,112,129	5/1992	Davidson et al.			
	A48	5,181,080	1/1993	Fanton et al.			
	A49	5,189,481	2/1993	Jann et al.			
	A50	5,215,619	6/1993	Cheng et al.			
	A51	5,264,912	11/1993	Vaught et al.			
	A52	5,344,491	9/1994	Katou			
	A53	5,355,212	10/1994	Wells et al.			
	A54	5,393,624	2/1995	Ushijima			
	A55	5,401,316	3/1995	Shiraishi et al.			

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<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
EXAM. INITIALS	REF. DES.	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	A56	5,412,473	5/1995	Rosencwaig et al.			
	A57	5,438,313	8/1995	Henderson et al.			
	A58	5,485,091	1/1996	Verkuil			
	A59	5,516,608	5/1996	Hobbs et al.			
	A60	5,517,312	5/1996	Finarov			
	A61	5,537,669	7/1996	Evans et al.			
	A62	5,563,702	10/1996	Emery et al.			
	A63	5,565,979	10/1996	Gross			
	A64	5,572,598	11/1996	Wihl et al.			
	A65	5,581,350	12/1996	Chen et al.			
	A66	5,594,247	1/1997	Verkuil et al.			
	A67	5,596,406	1/1997	Rosencwaig et al.			
	A68	5,596,411	1/1997	Fanton et al.			
	A69	5,604,344	2/1997	Finarov			
	A70	5,604,585	2/1997	Johnson et al.			
	A71	5,614,060	3/1997	Hanawa			
	A72	5,619,548	4/1997	Koppel			
	A73	5,633,747	5/1997	Nikoonahad			
	A74	5,641,969	6/1997	Cooke et al.			
	A75	5,644,223	7/1997	Verkuil			
	A76	5,650,731	7/1997	Fung et al.			
	A77	5,652,654	7/1997	Asimopoulos			
	A78	5,682,242	10/1997	Eylon			
	A79	5,684,393	11/1997	Ryat			
	A80	5,689,614	11/1997	Gronet et al.			
	A81	5,695,568	12/1997	Sinha et al.			
	A82	5,699,156	12/1997	Carver			
	A83	5,712,707	1/1998	Ausschnitt et al.			

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Information Disclosure Statement--PTO 1449 (modified)

PAGE 6/13 \* RCVD AT 1/16/2004 12:15:15 PM [Eastern Standard Time] \* SVR:USPTO-EFXXF-1/1 \* DNIS:8729318 \* CSID:5127031250 \* DURATION (mm-ss):07-24 6/13

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<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
EXAM. INITIALS	REF. DES.	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	A84	5,730,642	3/1998	Sandhu et al.			
	A85	5,737,072	4/1998	Emery et al.			
	A86	5,740,226	4/1998	Komiya et al.			
	A87	5,747,813	5/1998	Norton et al.			
	A88	5,748,318	5/1998	Maris et al.			
	A89	5,754,297	5/1998	Nulman			
	A90	5,757,507	5/1998	Ausschnitt et al.			
	A91	5,764,365	6/1998	Pinarov			
	A92	5,767,693	6/1998	Verkuil			
	A93	5,770,099	6/1998	Ricc et al.			
	A94	5,771,094	6/1998	Carter et al.			
	A95	5,798,829	8/1998	Vaez-Iravani			
	A96	5,798,837	8/1998	Aspnes et al.			
	A97	5,805,290	9/1998	Ausschnitt et al.			
	A98	5,822,055	10/1998	Tsai et al.			
	A99	5,825,482	10/1998	Nikoonahad et al.			
	A100	5,831,865	11/1998	Berezin et al.			
	A101	5,844,684	12/1998	Maris et al.			
	A102	5,849,136	12/1998	Mintz et al.			
	A103	5,859,964	1/1999	Wang et al.			
	A104	5,864,394	1/1999	Jordan, III et al.			
	A105	5,866,437	2/1999	Chen et al.			
	A106	5,867,590	2/1999	Eylon			
	A107	5,872,633	2/1999	Holzapfel et al.			
	A108	5,877,859	3/1999	Aspnes et al.			
	A109	5,882,165	3/1999	Maydan et al.			
	A110	5,883,374	3/1999	Mathews			
	A111	5,883,710	3/1999	Nikoonahad et al.			

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EXAM. INITIALS	REF. DES.	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	A112	5,886,355	3/1999	Bright et al.			
	A113	5,887,085	3/1999	Otsuka			
	A114	5,889,593	3/1999	Bareket			
	A115	5,896,294	4/1999	Chow et al.			
	A116	5,900,939	5/1999	Aspnes et al.			
	A117	5,910,011	6/1999	Cruse			
	A118	5,910,842	6/1999	Piwonka-Corle et al.			
	A119	5,914,784	6/1999	Ausschnitt et al.			
	A120	5,917,588	6/1999	Addiego			
	A121	5,917,594	6/1999	Norton			
	A122	5,920,076	7/1999	Burgin et al.			
	A123	5,926,690	7/1999	Toprac et al.			
	A124	5,930,138	7/1999	Lin et al.			
	A125	5,935,338	8/1999	Lei et al.			
	A126	5,935,397	8/1999	Masterson			
	A127	5,943,122	8/1999	Holmes			
	A128	5,955,661	9/1999	Samsavar et al.			
	A129	5,959,735	9/1999	Maris et al.			
	A130	5,959,812	9/1999	Rothermel			
	A131	5,963,783	10/1999	Lowell et al.			
	A132	5,964,643	10/1999	Birang et al.			
	A133	5,966,312	10/1999	Chen			
	A134	5,968,691	10/1999	Yoshioka et al.			
	A135	5,973,323	10/1999	Adler et al.			
	A136	5,973,787	10/1999	Aspnes et al.			
	A137	5,976,310	11/1999	Levy			
	A138	5,978,074	11/1999	Opsal et al.			
	A139	5,982,482	11/1999	Nelson et al.			

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<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
EXAM. INITIALS	REF. DES.	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	A140	5,985,497	11/1999	Phan et al.			
	A141	6,008,906	12/1999	Maris			
	A142	6,012,966	1/2000	Ban et al.			
	A143	6,020,214	2/2000	Watanabe et al.			
	A144	6,020,957	2/2000	Rosengaus et al.			
	A145	6,023,338	2/2000	Bareket			
	A146	6,025,918	2/2000	Maris			
	A147	6,038,029	3/2000	Finarov			
	A148	6,039,848	3/2000	Moslehi et al.			
	A149	6,040,198	3/2000	Komiya et al.			
	A150	6,045,433	4/2000	Dvir et al.			
	A151	6,052,478	4/2000	Wihl et al.			
	A152	6,060,715	5/2000	England et al.			
	A153	6,064,517	5/2000	Chuang et al.			
	A154	6,072,147	6/2000	Koshiishi et al.			
	A155	6,072,178	6/2000	Mizuno			
	A156	6,072,320	6/2000	Verkuil			
	A157	6,074,518	6/2000	Imafuku et al.			
	A158	6,078,045	6/2000	Maul et al.			
	A159	6,078,386	6/2000	Tsai et al.			
	A160	6,080,287	6/2000	Drewery et al.			
	A161	6,081,325	6/2000	Leslie et al.			
	A162	6,083,363	7/2000	Ashtiani et al.			
	A163	6,084,679	7/2000	Steffan et al.			
	A164	6,086,737	7/2000	Patonay et al.			
	A165	6,089,181	7/2000	Sucmasa et al.			
	A166	6,093,625	7/2000	Wagner et al.			
	A167	6,097,555	8/2000	Lehmann et al.			

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EXAM. INITIALS	REF. DES.	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	A168	6,099,705	8/2000	Chen et al.			
	A169	6,101,971	8/2000	Denholm et al.			
	A170	6,103,014	8/2000	Lei et al.			
	A171	6,107,629	8/2000	Benninghoven et al.			
	A172	6,108,087	8/2000	Nikoonahad et al.			
	A173	6,110,287	8/2000	Arai et al.			
	A174	6,112,697	9/2000	Sharan et al.			
	A175	6,114,216	9/2000	Yich et al.			
	A176	6,122,046	9/2000	Almog			
	A177	6,124,924	9/2000	Feldman et al.			
	A178	6,159,073	12/2000	Wiswesser et al.			
	A179	6,172,349	1/2001	Katz et al.			
	A180	6,175,416	1/2001	Maris et al.			
	A181	6,175,645	1/2001	Elyasaf et al.			
	A182	6,178,257	1/2001	Alumot et al.			
	A183	6,179,709	1/2001	Redeker et al.			
	A184	6,184,984	2/2001	Lee et al.			
	A185	6,191,605	2/2001	Miller et al.			
	A186	6,191,855	2/2001	Maris			
	A187	6,199,157	3/2001	Dov et al.			
	A188	6,201,601	3/2001	Vaezi-Jravani et al.			
	A189	6,201,998	3/2001	Lin et al.			
	A190	6,201,999	3/2001	Jevtic			
	A191	6,204,917	3/2001	Smedt			
	A192	6,208,418	3/2001	Maris			
	A193	6,208,421	3/2001	Maris et al.			
	A194	6,208,751	3/2001	Almog			
	A195	6,211,961	4/2001	Maris			

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	A196	6,212,691	4/2001	Heberer			
	A197	6,215,551	4/2001	Nikoonabad et al.			
	A198	6,224,638	5/2001	Jevtic et al.			
	A199	6,256,097	7/2001	Wagner			
	C1	4,511,800	4/1985	Harbeck et al.			
	C2	4,770,536	9/1988	Golberstein			
	C3	4,807,994	2/1989	Felch et al.			
	C4	4,899,055	2/1990	Adams			
	C5	5,074,669	12/1991	Opsal			
	C6	5,520,769	5/1996	Barrett et al.			
	C7	5,608,526	3/1997	Piwonka-Corle et al.			
	C8	5,859,424	1/1999	Norton et al.			
	C9	6,052,185	4/2000	Banet et al.			
	C10	6,141,103	10/2000	Pinaton et al.			
	D1	4631416	12/1986	Trutna, Jr.			
	D2	5114235	5/1992	Suda et al.			
	D3	5182455	1/1993	Muraki			
	D4	5182610	1/1993	Shibata			
	D5	5189494	2/1993	Muraki			
	D6	5316984	5/1994	Leourx			
	D7	5327221	7/1994	Saitoh et al.			
	D8	5340992	8/1994	Matsugu et al.			
	D9	5414514	5/1995	Smith et al.			
	D10	5666196	9/1997	Ishii et al.			
	D11	5783342	7/1998	Yamashita et al.			
	D12	5801390	9/1998	Shiraishi			
	D13	6046094	4/2000	Jost et al.			
	D14	6077756	6/2000	Lin et al.			

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<b>Form PTO-1449</b> (modified) List of Patents and Publications For Applicant's Information •Disclosure Statement (Use several sheets if necessary)			ATT'Y. DKT. NO. 5589-02326  APPLICANT: Levy et al.  FILING DATE: September 24, 2003		SERIAL NO. 10/670,183  GROUP: 2857		
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
EXAM. INITIALS	REF. DES.	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	D15	6079256	6/2000	Bareket			
	D16	6128089	10/2000	Ausschnitt et al.			
	D17	6153886	11/2000	Hagiwara et al.			
	D18	6177330	1/2001	Yasuda			
	D19	6255189	7/2001	Muller et al.			
	D20	6301011	10/2001	Fung et al.			
	D21	6388253	5/2002	Su			
	D22	6421124	7/2002	Matsumoto et al.			
	D23	6462818	10/2002	Bareket			
	D24	6476920	11/2002	Scheiner et al.			
	D25	6486492	11/2002	Su			
	D26	6486954	11/2002	Mieher et al.			
	D27	2002/0018217	2/2002	Weber-Grabau et al.			
	D28	2002/0149782	10/2002	Raymond			
	D29	2002/0158193	10/2002	Sezginer et al.			
	D30	2002/0192577	12/2002	Fay et al.			
	E1	5,438,413	8/1995	Mazor et al.			
	E2	5,574,278	11/1996	Poirier			
	E3	5,703,692	12/1997	McNeil et al.			
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	E5	5,923,423	7/1999	Sawatari et al.			
	E6	5,963,314	10/1999	Worster et al.			
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	E9	6,157,032	12/2000	Into			
	E10	6,166,801	12/2000	Dishon et al.			
	E11	6,174,743	1/2001	Pangle et al.			
	E12	6,175,421	1/2001	Fuchs et al.			

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<b>Form PTO-1449</b> (modified) List of Patents and Publications for Applicant's Information Disclosure Statement (Use several sheets if necessary)			ATTY. DKT. NO. 5589-02326  APPLICANT: Levy et al.  FILING DATE: September 24, 2003			SERIAL NO. 10/670,183  GROUP: 2857	
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
EXAM. INITIALS	REF. DES.	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	E13	6,188,478	2/2001	Fuchs et al.			
	E14	6,191,846	2/2001	Opsal et al.			
	E15	6,250,143	6/2001	Bindell et al.			
	E16	6,258,610	7/2001	Blatchford et al.			
	E17	6,266,144	7/2001	Li			
	E18	6,320,666	11/2001	Opsal et al.			
	E19	US 2001/0052257	12/2001	Magerle			
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	F3	5,529,671	6/1996	Debley et al.			
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<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
EXAM. INITIALS	REF. DES.	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB CLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO
<b>OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</b>							

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